

TIME TO ACT NOW!



RES have submitted their planning application for 6 giant wind turbines at Jack's Lane. This site is between Stanhoe and South Creake, and between North Creake and Syderstone, and will be clearly visible from Docking, Bircham, Burnham Market and for miles around. They plan to submit a second application shortly for another anemometer mast.

Village polls have shown overwhelming rejection of these proposals by the villagers (85% in South Creake and 80% in North Creake).

With the additional threat of similar developments at Syderstone (Chiplow) and Docking (Fring), it is vital that we all now write individually to register our objections. We must also encourage our Parish Councils to oppose them formally. Please read the arguments overleaf and ask as many people as possible to write to Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council.

You can do this in one of three ways

By writing your own letter, drawing on the arguments over the page.

By signing, dating and posting the letter attached to this leaflet.

(Ref Planning Application No. 10/01419/FM)

By going on line to www.creakesaction.com where you will find instructions on how to object on line, together with a copy of the objection letter which you may copy and edit as you wish

PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS TO ARRIVE BY FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER. THANK YOU.

Reasons to say NO to the RES Application

Countryside matters!

We live on a small island with ever-diminishing areas of unspoilt landscape. What we still have must be preserved and protected. This is especially true of West Norfolk, where the rural economy revolves around tourism which largely depends on its greatest asset – the beauty and tranquillity of its countryside. Inserting groups of wind turbines each roughly 15 times the height of a two-storey house, will be an inappropriate intrusion on the landscape. The crucial question is: will visitor numbers – and, by default, local jobs in the service sector – remain buoyant in scenic areas degraded by wind turbines?

Birds and bats

Every year North West Norfolk plays host to thousands of overwintering pink footed geese. The proposed turbine sites are all within the birds' feeding grounds and they pose a major threat when large flocks of feeding geese are disturbed and take off en masse. Wind turbines are also harmful to other wildlife: bats have been killed in their thousands by inappropriately placed wind farms. Birds of prey are also at risk, including the rare Montagu's harrier: there is only one breeding pair left in this area.

Noise and health

There is growing concern about the effect of wind turbine noise on the health of people living nearby. Medical research in the US by Dr Nina Pierpont, MD, PhD, has established a link between wind turbines and a range of health problems including anxiety, loss of concentration and sleep disturbance. The wind industry dismisses this evidence and says turbines are safe. Smoking, thalidomide and even asbestos at one time were also thought to be "safe", until the evidence became overwhelming. Most informed opinion now recommends a buffer zone of at least 2 km (1¼ miles). Virtually all of Stanhoe is closer to the Jacks Lane site than this.

Offshore Not Onshore

With the wind farm comes an entire infrastructure: access roads, cabling, substation and huge foundations, one thousand tons of concrete for every turbine. And as onshore wind turbines generate only 25 per cent of their capacity on average in Britain, wind power has to be replaced by conventional power stations during low wind periods. In an age of global warming and reliance on finite resources like oil and gas, few would argue that we will need alternative sources of energy. However, the impact of wind turbines would be less damaging, and more efficient, if they were sited off-shore rather than on-shore. Off-shore turbines where wind velocity is both higher and more constant are also more productive, generating around 30 per cent more electricity than onshore.

The money-go-round

Wind power is NOT free. It is heavily subsidised by the so-called Renewable Obligation Certificate (ROC) system. This hidden cost ends up on our personal electricity bill, so we all pay more for our electricity! It is just a device for transferring money from the Many (us) to the Few (RES).

Jonathan Leake, environment editor of The Times, wrote on 27 January 2008:

'Lavish subsidies and high electricity prices have turned Britain's onshore wind farms into an extraordinary money-spinner. According to new industry figures, a typical 2 megawatt (2Mw) turbine can now generate power worth £200,000 on the wholesale markets – plus another £300,000 of subsidy from taxpayers'

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Creakes Action for Protecting the Environment

www.creakesaction.com 07900 450 357



Head of Planning & Development Services
Borough Council of Kings Lynn & West Norfolk
Kings Court, Chapel Street
KINGS LYNN
PE30 1EX

Dear Sir,

Objection to Planning Application 10/01419/FM
Jacks Lane Wind Turbine Farm

I object to the above planning application for a wind turbine farm between the villages of South Creake, North Creake, Stanhoe and Syderstone for the following reasons:

1. It would be a visual intrusion within an Area of Important Landscape Quality (AILQ), contrary to policy LP 4/6.
2. It would be close to an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and would be clearly visible from the setting of the ANOB, contrary to policy LP 4/5.
3. It also contravenes the Norfolk Structure Plan policy ENV3.
4. The anemometer mast was erected some distance from the nearest turbine (over 1.5kms) and therefore there is no accurate data in respect of wind speed and wind shear. This makes it impossible to provide reliable evidence that the noise levels will conform to standard ETSU/R/97.
5. The lack of an onsite anemometer mast means that there is no reliable evidence that the development complies with renewable energy policies PPS1, PPS7, PPS22 and ENG2.
6. No account has been taken of the cumulative impact of the other two wind farms proposed at Docking and Chiplow. At Docking, planning permission has been given for an anemometer mast as a precursor for a 7 turbine development whilst a full application for a 5 turbine development has been submitted for Chiplow. The impact on every facet of our rural life would be overwhelming.
7. The string of four turbines (T2, T4, T5, T6) along the side of Jacks Lane bridleway represents a serious risk of the turbines blades shedding ice upon pedestrians and horse riders, not to mention the risk of the movement and noise from the turbines spooking horses with consequent injury to both horse and rider. The position of Turbine 6 creates the same risk on the public track which runs from the Green Lane (22190) to Barwick Hall Farm along the northern boundary of the site.
8. The wind farm site is extensively used during the winter months by large flocks of Pink Foot Geese. This bird is an endangered species and is on the RSPB Amber Alert list. There are substantial risks of collision injuries and of the birds being driven off their feeding grounds, contrary to policy PPS9.

Signed: Date

Name:

Address:

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